

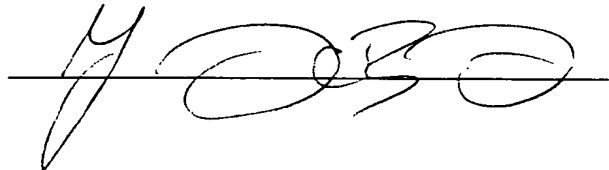
In re Appln. of BRUNNERT et al.
Application No. 09/762,374

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION (along with any documents referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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3-20-02

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Y. O. S.", written over a horizontal line.

A handwritten mark or signature in black ink, possibly a stylized "B" or "P", located in the bottom right corner of the page.



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PATENT

Attorney Docket No. 207717

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
BRUNNERT et al.

Art Unit: 3634

Application No. 09/762,374

Examiner: JOHNSON, Blair M.

Filed: March 19, 2001

For: ROLL-UP WINDOW BLIND WITH
LOWERABLE GUIDE ELEMENTS

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GROUP 3600

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS
MADE IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 20, 2001

Amendments to existing claims:

22. (Amended) A roll-up window blind for a window of a motor vehicle, the window having an associated window pane, the roll-up blind comprising:
a rotatable winding shaft,
a blind material having parallel first and second edges with the first edge being connected to the winding shaft for movement between a reeled-in position and a reeled-out position,

a first drive arrangement which pre-stresses the winding shaft in a direction corresponding to moving the blind material to the reeled-in position,

a pull rod fastened to the second edge of the blind material,

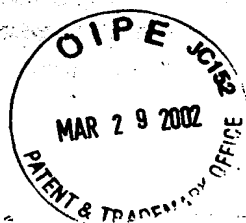
at least one deflection-resistant actuating element for transferring an associated second drive arrangement between a first position in which the pullrod is disposed adjacent the winding shaft and a second position in which the pullrod is disposed relatively further away from the winding shaft, and

two guide elements for guiding the pull rod on the window pane, the guide elements being disposed in spaced relation to each other and being supported on the pull rod by corresponding bearing arrangements for movement between a first retracted position and a second guide position, wherein in the first [guide] retracted position the guide elements are retracted with respect to a circumferential surface of the pullrod and in the second guide

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retracted with respect to a circumferential surface of the pullrod and in the second guide position the guide element project beyond the circumferential surface of the pullrod in order to guide the pull rod on the window pane as the blind material moves from the reeled-in position to the reeled-out position.

36. (Amended) A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein each bearing arrangement includes a bearing carrier which is pivotable about [an] a bearing axis.



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PENDING CLAIMS AFTER AMENDMENTS
MADE IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 20, 2001

22. A roll-up window blind for a window of a motor vehicle, the window having an associated window pane, the roll-up blind comprising:
- a rotatable winding shaft,
 - a blind material having parallel first and second edges with the first edge being connected to the winding shaft for movement between a reeled-in position and a reeled-out position,
 - a first drive arrangement which pre-stresses the winding shaft in a direction corresponding to moving the blind material to the reeled-in position,
 - a pull rod fastened to the second edge of the blind material,
 - at least one deflection-resistant actuating element for transferring an associated second drive arrangement between a first position in which the pullrod is disposed adjacent the winding shaft and a second position in which the pullrod is disposed relatively further away from the winding shaft, and
 - two guide elements for guiding the pull rod on the window pane, the guide elements being disposed in spaced relation to each other and being supported on the pull rod by corresponding bearing arrangements for movement between a first retracted position and a second guide position, wherein in the first retracted position the guide elements are retracted with respect to a circumferential surface of the pullrod and in the second guide position the guide element project beyond the circumferential surface of the pullrod in order to guide the

pull rod on the window pane as the blind material moves from the reeled-in position to the reeled-out position.

23. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein the winding shaft is supported in a housing having an outlet slot for the blind material.

24. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein the winding shaft is supported in a housing installed into a hat deposit area of the motor vehicle.

25. A roll-up window blind according to claim 24, characterized in that an outlet slot for the blind material is contained in a hat deposit area of the motor vehicle.

26. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein the first drive arrangement is a spring motor which is located inside the winding shaft.

27. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, further including an outlet slot for the blind material and wherein the pullrod and the outlet slot have complementary shapes such that when the blind material is in the reel-in position the pullrod closes the outlet slot except for an annular gap surrounding the pullrod.

28. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, further including an outlet slot for the blind material and wherein the pullrod and the outlet slot have complementary shapes such that when the blind material is in the reel-in position the pullrod closes the outlet slot.

29. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein each actuating element comprises an actuating lever pivotably supported beside the winding shaft, each actuating lever having a free end that cooperates with the pullrod and being pivotable from a first position in which the actuating lever extends about parallel to the winding shaft into a second position in which the actuating lever is at about a right angle to the winding shaft.

30. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein the guide elements comprise slide skids.

31. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein the guide elements comprise rotatable rollers.

32. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein each bearing arrangement includes a slide-block guide.

33. A roll-up window blind according to claim 32, wherein the side-block guide has a curved guide slot for leading the guide element along a path.

34. A roll-up window blind according to claim 33, wherein the guide slot is curved in a continuous form.

35. A roll-up window blind according to claim 33, wherein the guide slot has an L-shaped form.

36. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein each bearing arrangement includes a bearing carrier which is pivotable about a bearing axis.

37. A roll-up window blind according to claim 36, characterized in that the bearing axis extends approximately parallel to a plane defined by the blind material in the reeled-out position.

38. A roll-up window blind according to claim 37, wherein the bearing axis extends at a right angle to the pullrod.

39. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein each guide element has and associated pre-stressing device for pre-stressing the guide element toward the second guide position.

40. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein each bearing arrangement has an associated pre-stressing device for pre-stressing the guide element toward the second guide position.

41. A roll-up window blind according to claim 39, wherein the pre-stressing device includes a bending spring.

42. A roll-up window blind according to claim 22, wherein each guide element is movable along a path that curves about an axis is parallel to a longitudinal axis of the pullrod between the first retracted position and the second guide position.



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COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a response to an office action in the subject application.

- ☐ Applicants claim small entity status of this application under 37 CFR 1.27.
- ☒ Petition for Extension of Time
- ☐ Applicants petition for a one-month extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136, the fee for which is \$110.00 (enclosed).
- ☒ Applicants believe that no petition for an extension of time is necessary. However, to the extent that such petition is deemed necessary, Applicants hereby petition for a sufficient extension of time to render the present submission timely. Please charge Deposit Account No. 12-1216 for the appropriate petition fee.
- ☒ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ Other:

The claim fee has been calculated as shown below:

					SMALL ENTITY		OTHER THAN A SMALL ENTITY	
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDIT CLAIM FEE	RATE	ADDIT CLAIM FEE
TOTAL	21	MINUS	21	=	x 9=	\$	x 18=	\$
INDEPENDENT	1	MINUS	1	=	x 42=	\$	x 84=	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE CLAIM					+ 140=	\$	+ 280=	\$
TOTAL						\$	TOTAL	\$

- ☐ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 12-1216 in the amount of \$ _____ A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ _____ is attached.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 12-1216. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.
- ☒ Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.
- ☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

LEYDIG, VOIT & MAYER, LTD.

By

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